

Remarks

In response to the Office Action mailed October 21, 2005, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

Applicant acknowledges with thanks the indication that claims 49 and 79 are allowed. The Examiner also indicated that claims 50, 56-62, and 69 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has done so, and has made other amendments to other claims to make them depend directly or ultimately from allowed or allowable claims. No new matter is presented. Remarks on all the claims pending as of the October 21, 2005 Office Action follow:

Claim 45 is canceled.

Claim 46 is amended to depend from allowed claim 49.

Claim 48 remains unchanged. In the April 29, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner had rejected claim 48 only under 35 U.S.C. § 112 ¶ 2 because it depended from canceled claim 47, and thus claim 48 was previously rewritten in independent form to incorporate the limitations of claim 45. In the October 21, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner removes the § 112 ¶ 2 rejection and applies no other rejection.

Claim 49 is indicated as allowed and thus unchanged.

Claim 50 is rewritten in independent form to incorporate claim 45.

Claims 51-55 are amended to depend from allowed claim 49.

Claim 56 is rewritten in independent form to incorporate claim 45 and previous claim 55.

Claims 57-61 depend directly or ultimately from currently amended claim 56 and thus remain unchanged.

Claim 62 is rewritten in independent form to incorporate claim 45.

Claims 63 and 64 are amended to depend from allowed claim 49.

Claim 65 now depends ultimately from allowed claim 49 and thus remains unchanged.

Claims 66 and 67 are canceled.

Claim 68 is amended to depend from allowed claim 49.

Claim 69 depends from currently amended claim 50 and thus remains unchanged.

Claims 70 and 71 now depend ultimately from allowed claim 49 and thus remain unchanged.

Claims 72 and 73 are canceled.

Claim 74 is rewritten in independent form to incorporate claim 45. In the April 29, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner had rejected claim 74 only under § 112 ¶ 2 because it depended from canceled claim 47, and thus claim 74 was previously amended to depend from claim 45, which is now canceled. In the October 21, 2005 Office Action, the Examiner removes the § 112 ¶ 2 rejection and applies no other rejection.

Claims 75 and 76 are canceled.

Claim 77 is amended to depend from allowed claim 49.

Claim 78 is canceled.

Claim 79 is indicated as allowed and thus unchanged.

New claim 80 takes the limitations from previous claim 56 and depends from allowed claim 49.

New claim 81 takes the limitations from previous claim 57 and ultimately depends from allowed claim 49.

New claim 82 takes the limitations from previous claim 58 and ultimately depends from allowed claim 49.

New claim 83 takes the limitations from previous claim 59 and ultimately depends from allowed claim 49.

New claim 84 takes the limitations from previous claim 60 and ultimately depends from allowed claim 49.

New claim 85 takes the limitations from previous claim 61 and ultimately depends from allowed claim 49.

New claim 86 takes the limitations from previous claim 62 and depends from allowed claim 49.

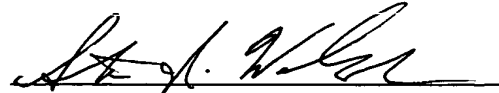
New claim 87 takes the limitations from previous claim 74 and depends from allowed claim 49.

The rejection of claims 45, 46, 51-55, 63-68, 70-75, and 76-78 under § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Schulze (U.S. Patent No. 1,386,078) is traversed. At least in view of the amendments described above, claims 46, 51-55, 63-65, 68, 70, 71, 74, and 77 are believed to be allowable. Claims 45, 66, 67, 72, 73, 75, 76, and 78 are canceled.

As noted, claims 49 and 79 stand allowed. In addition, for at least the reasons described above, claims 48, 50, 56-62, 69, and 74 are believed to be allowable. New claims 80-87 depend directly or ultimately from allowed claim 49 and are thus also believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance,
and a Notice to that effect is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven I. Wallach", written over a horizontal line.

Steven I. Wallach
Reg. No. 35, 402

c/o Ladas & Parry LLP
26 West 61st Street
New York, New York 10023
Tel. No. (212) 708-1884